



THE RIO NEWS.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, NOVEMBER 9th, 1897.

THE attempted assassination of President Prudente de Moraes on Friday last, followed by the death of the minister of war who had courageously grappled with the assassin, has produced a profound impression in every part of the country, for it has opened the eyes of many to the unwelcome fact that the most dangerous enemies to good government are within the ranks of those who are professing fervent loyalty to the republic. Among reflecting and observant men the course of the President has been considered exceptionally conciliatory and conservative. He has of course been opposed to the repressive policy advocated by the partisans of his predecessor, but at the same time he has yielded to their demands on only too many occasions and he has shut his eyes to their excesses when severity would have been better. It is recognized that he was not strong enough to successfully oppose them at the outset, and it may be that he has not been strong enough to call them to account for their crimes. Little by little, however, he has drawn to him the better influences and sentiments of the country, and lately he found himself strong enough to cut loose from a domination, which was unquestionably as galling to his sense of honor as it was prejudicial to his administration. The success of this departure and the unexpected strength of his following, of course infuriated the extremists to the highest pitch, and for several months past we have seen him covered with every species of abuse, and we now know that his life even was repeatedly threatened. He did not believe, however, that partizan rancor would go to any such length, and he therefore took no precaution whatever against criminal assault. Happily for Brazil, the assassination of the President failed, though it resulted in the death of one of his most dedicated and trusted lieutenants, Marshal Carlos Machado Bittencourt, minister of war. No one can condemn the crime too severely, nor can the punishment of its author and his accomplices, should he have any, be too swift and exemplary. Such a crime strikes not only at the person of the executive, but at the foundations of authority and good government. The President is not a tyrant, nor a usurper, nor a spendthrift of the national wealth. He represents not only the better elements of his country, but he is their chosen executive for a brief term of years. To assail his life is to attack the fundamental principles of government. We trust therefore that there will be no more dallying with assassination, nor with intimidation and disorder. If the true republic is ever to be established in Brazil, it will be through a respect for the law and the maintenance of good order, and not through the excesses which have lately been practised in the name of freedom. All things considered, we believe that good will result from this abominable crime, hurtful as it may seem at this moment.

ACCORDING to cable advices the Tammany candidates for the municipal government of New York, under its new charter, have been elected, the political parties obstinately refusing to lay aside better purpose of securing a good municipal government. The result is what might have been anticipated—the triumph of the worst elements in the city and the surrender of the city to spoilsmen for a term of years. For this result the republican party is largely to blame. It is not strong enough in the city of New York to elect its own ticket, and it could therefore have supported the citizens or non-partizan ticket and thus have insured the election of admittedly good men. It stupidly and criminally refused to do this, and therefore helped to elect a ticket which will deliver over the city to jobbers and bunymen for several years to come. It is a pity that respectable and honest men can not see the criminal error of such a course, that they can not sink party differences for the purpose of securing good and honest municipal government. In reality there is no need whatever of mixing up national politics in the government of a city. It is an element totally foreign to municipal affairs, which demand nothing beyond good business oversight. There may be differences over purely local questions, and on such issues tickets may naturally be made up, but for national parties, divided on questions of finance, free trade, foreign policy, etc., to contest the election is clearly absurd and hurtful. The triumph of Tammany in the recent New York election is not only a disaster for the city itself, but is a reverse for the principles of republican self-government. Every occurrence of this character serves to strengthen the feeling everywhere that the republic promotes jobbery and partizan struggles, rather than efficient government. The history of New York for the last half century is a record of misgovernment and criminal jobbery. It has not only been a source of humiliation to the better classes of Americans, but it has served as a reproach against republican institutions in the mouths of observant foreigners. And yet, in spite of all this respectable men are still found who quarrel over purely political tickets, and who prefer to see the city ruled by hummers and jobbers rather than by honest, non-partizan citizens! It certainly reflects little credit on the good sense and good intentions of its citizens.

MURDER OF THE MINISTER OF WAR

On Friday, about 1 o'clock p. m., President Prudente de Moraes, accompanied by his suite, landed at the war arsenal on his return from the steamer *Espírito-Santo*, to which he had gone to welcome Gen. Barbosa just arrived from Bahia. As the President and his party were passing through the arsenal, there were a few shouts of "Long live the memory of Marshal Floriano Peixoto!" This cry, which has been connected with so many scenes of disorder and bloodshed that it has acquired a sinister significance, was answered with shouts of "Long live the President of the Republic!"

A little while afterwards a soldier in the crowd forced his way toward the President and pointed at him a double-barreled pistol (*garrucha*), which, according to one account missed fire, and according to another was discharged without the bullets taking effect. The official account is that it missed fire twice and was loaded with quartered Comblain bullets and heavy charges of powder. A blow from the sword of Col. Mendes de Moraes, the President's chief of staff, knocked the soldier down and there were cries of "Kill him! kill him!" Against this demand both the President and minister of war are reported to have protested.

There then ensued a struggle to disarm the soldier, in which he drew a knife, inflicting three wounds on the minister of war, who died within a few minutes. Col. Mendes de Moraes was severely wounded, and slight wounds

were received by several other persons before the soldier was finally overpowered and disarmed. Singularly enough, one of the persons who assisted in disarming the criminal was Capt. Marcos Curius who is considered responsible for the military murders committed at Sepetiba under the government of Marshal Floriano Peixoto.

After the death of the minister the President took his carriage and proceeded to Friburgo Palace, where during the day he was visited by many persons who congratulated him on his escape and condoled with him on the tragic fate of the minister of war. He decided to issue an address to the nation, in which he shows that he believes that the murderer was actuated by political motives. This opinion, which is shared by a large part of the press, led to orders for holding the troops in readiness and for guarding the streets with large detachments of police. Whether there is sufficient ground for the opinion we have not as yet any evidence that will enable us to decide, but we nevertheless consider ourselves justified in thinking that this crime would probably not have been perpetrated if the proper steps had been taken for bringing to justice the authors of the murders of Barão de Batory, of Barão do Sero Azul, of Capt. Lorena, of the young Carvalhos, of Col. Gentil de Castro, and of many other victims whose murderers have been allowed to enjoy immunity from arrest.

There is no doubt, we are convinced, that this impunity has encouraged the development of ferocious instincts and, until the authorities, stimulated and aided by the better classes of people, show that they are willing and able to check and punish outbreaks of such instincts, no one will be safe. There is apparently a very general belief that killing in the name of the republic is not a crime.

The murderer is a light mulatto, twenty-two years of age, and a native of the state of Alagoas. His name is Marcelino Bispo de Mello and he belongs to the 10th battalion of infantry, to which he was transferred from the 33rd, in which he had been enlisted in June, 1896. He has recently been acting as orderly for Surgeon-General Pereira Guimarães. It is stated that he is one of the soldiers who some days ago was arrested with Deocleciano Martyn on Rua do Ascurra by a police force engaged in looking for the Laranjeiras apparition. The result of the examination to which he was subjected after having committed the crime, has not yet been made public. He is reported to be calm and collected, and denies that he killed the minister of war.

We learn that the minister of war, Col. Mendes de Moraes and other persons during the days preceding this tragic event, had received threatening anonymous letters. Several arrests of well-known Jacobins have been made.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES

Nov. 3.—*Chamber of Deputies*.—The chamber completed the work of voting on the amendments to the budget of the war department. A committee of three was chosen to welcome Gen. Barboza on his arrival from Bahia.

Nov. 5.—*Chamber of Deputies*.—The proceedings were interrupted by the news of the murder of the minister of war. Several speeches were made on this tragic event and a committee was appointed to attend the funeral. The chamber then adjourned to Monday.

Nov. 6.—*Senate*.—Senator Severino Vieira offered a motion signed by himself and 18 others denouncing the murder of the minister of war as a barbarous, hideous and monstrous political crime and expressing eternal gratitude for the minister's self-sacrifice in giving his life in defence of the President and of the institutions of the country. A debate ensued and Senator Ruiro Barcellos moved to strike out the word "political." This the senate by a vote of 23 to 22 refused to do, and 20 opposition senators thereupon withdrew, leaving a written statement in which they said that, in view of the terms in which the motion was couched and of Senator Severino Vieira's assertions attributing to their party complicity in the crime, they declined to vote but declared that they were in harmony with public opinion in its condemnation of that barbarous and cowardly crime. The withdrawal of these senators deprived the house of a quorum and consequently no action could be taken on Senator Severino Vieira's motion.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—It is stated that in S. Paulo, the house of Deputy Glycero, who is said to be threatened, has been guarded by police.

—Conde de Motta Maia, who was chief physician of the deceased emperor of Brazil, D. Pedro II, died at Juiz de Fora on Sunday.

—A telegram of 5th inst. from Bahia says that the law students there have published a protest against the military atrocities committed in that state.

—Some days ago the military club at Porto Alegre rejected a motion to congratulate Lauro Sodré on his nomination for the presidency of the republic, whereupon Sodré's friends in the club sent him a telegram congratulating him on his attitude towards the coup d'état of Nov. 3, 1897. To understand the significance of this fact it is necessary to remember that the majority of the club is castilian, that Castillos favored the coup d'état and that Sodré opposed it.

—In the general expression of horror and regret for the criminal event of Friday last, the one discordant note comes from Rio Grande do Sul, where Julio de Castilhos' organ, the *Federação*, breaks out into a violent attack on the President in regard to the railway issue, and Germano Hoeselcher, a castilian demagogue, addressed a public meeting in language which shows that hatred of the President dominates every other sentiment. Among other things he said that Rio Grande should protest against the President, even though it should resort to separation, and that the life of the President is not worth the least among the deserters from the army, but to mention that of a general. Such sentiments should show the President how useless it is to waste consideration on the followers of Julio de Castilhos.

S. PAULO FACTS AND FANCIES.

—Let us talk of graves and worms? Tuesday, the *dia dos finados*, was observed with all due pomp in São Paulo. The cemetery, smothered in flowers and clothed in white marble, worked with a glistening gaiety, like a golden bride, and seemed to grin a deathly-lively welcome to the numerous concourse of its visitors, — a sort of "hike you are coming to stay? Bring your traps and take a shakedown whenever you like; there's lots of room!"

The crowd is perceptibly greater each year; and this is natural for in the battle of life, as in all other battles except Canudos — for each one killed there are always four or five wounded.

I always like to see "no flowers" tacked on to obituary notices. What can be more horrible, more unfair, so to speak, than to associate the brightness, freshness, and perfume of these emblems of life's promise with the squalid realities of death and corruption? If you must put flowers on your mortal remains, let them be tin ones such as they use at the cemeteries; on the graves, at least, they look nearly as well, and the substitution of tin flowers for vegetable ones beautifully symbolizes the Christian's hope of the soul's immortality.

Besides, tin flowers do not shame you by withering so long before you remember to remove them, as the real ones do; though by the way, I did notice a solitary withered tin chapel on Tuesday. The sun seemed to have melted it, and it was as sorry a sight as the most woe-begone mourner could wish to deck a grave with. But let us not just about it. Probably it was some widow's tribute to the memory of her *desdichado esposo*.

How many of us have come to hate the odour of white rose, jasmine, lily, because of the bathhouse after-scent which has so often assailed their nostrils when "bending them over the flower-covered dead!" Consider the living; — consider the lilies. Never invite your friends to a salad of flowers and carillon; the two flavours spoil one another. The flowers we have with us only for a season; the carillon we shall have enough of later on.

"Emblems of Life's Promise" I have called them; and it does not affect my argument at all that the promise, beautiful as it is, is so soon to be broken. "The grass withereth, the flower fadeeth." The subject is one for solemn reflection. Hear, then, how the immortal Bard soars away above all others on this saddest theme of the decay of earthly beauty:

"Since brass, nor stone, nor earth, nor boundless sea
Nor mortal nor immortal, own their power;
— 'Tis thou that woe, that age, that fate, that chance,
And your own frailty, that doth make us shew
As flowers that fade, or leaves that fall;
— Who in the wreck doth surfeit of a day,
Where, like a baseless fabric, all we see
Aerial, fleeting, like a dream, on earth's thin lid,
Or who his spot of beauty can forbid?"

I do not know whether, or not, it be a sign of British cold-heartedness, but I doubt if I should care to see a *dia dos finados* observed in England. The idea that the dead claim from us one day out of the 365, and have their claim allowed, is a beautiful and poetical one no doubt; but like many other such ideas it does not seem to work out satisfactorily in practice. On Tuesday it appeared to me that for one genuine mourner there were twenty careless holiday makers, flirting, laughing, jesting; mere revellers enjoying the Carnival of Life in the breezy sunshine, on ground within whose

precincts they will some day have to bid farewell to the flesh; forever, or, say, players who had come on to the stage for a merry-making, and found the scene-shifter had pulled up on them, by mistake, the surroundings amid which the tragedy of the play was to be consummated.

Sounding through their light laughter came the ceaseless moan of the wind among the tall swaying larches, just as the colour of mortality rises through the flowers strewn on a bier.

The associations of the place seemed vulgarised by the *ra e riant* of this jabbering, sweating throng, and it struck me the "Finados" while daddles appreciating the good intentions of their sometime friends, would, if the truth could be known, expand into phosphorescent smiles of relief and satisfaction, when night and silence should have cased them all to disappear, with their tinsel garlands and their imitation grief.

The 1st battalion's gory holiday is now over and its members are returning to their duty of keeping order in the streets, where it is to be hoped they will abstain from introducing the latest fashions from Canudos. By the way, why does not some smart labor-dasher bring out a good flaring, staring cravat, and call it the Canudos necktie? It would sell like wildfire among a certain class. He could then follow on with a flame-colored shirt and call it the Gen. — but hush!!

When the government of this model republic gave a thing is so, and rightly so; when, in short, the said government is engaged, like Lord Peter in the *Tale of a Tub*, "spaining off its damned crusts on us for motion," a prudent citizen will assent, whether with or against his conscience, lest a worse thing befall him. He will on no account dispute the point with the government. For in that case the government, — still following the example of Lord Peter, — in order to show him what a blind, besotted, ignorant, selfish piggy he is, will merely use this idiom, argument: "By G., this is good word wholesome rumson as any in Leadenhall market, and in y the devil broil you and yours eternally if you presume to believe otherwise!"

So, when the 15th of this gory month comes round, the government will not call upon us to sing odies in praise of

The freedom of speech,
The dignity of the press,
The high financial success,
The military glory,
The prestige abroad,
The happiness at home.

It has brought us. It will simply order us, as Lord Peter ordered his brothers, to "cut our victims" (if we can still contrive to earn them) obsequies if none of our impertinence. This is the liberty of South American republics. Still it is with many a sickening gulp that honest men, both Brazilians and foreigners, manage to swallow their opinions on the sale of the *Constituinte* atrocities. But, after all, what is the use of troubling? These things are sure to happen, for the average Valoo can not acquire civilisation in a day; he is sure to have his occasional relapses into savagery.

I am in a position to contradict the report that a performance called "The Waits" is to be given, at Christmas, in aid of the funds of the Hospital Samaritano, by members of its nursing staff, conducted by the doctor. The rumour, probably suggested by the photograph now on view in the doorway of the photographers, No. 10 Rua Direita.

I have it on good authority that, contrary to general report, there is nothing radically wrong with the Viaducto do Cha, which, though needing repairs, is all right so far as safety is concerned.

NICODRACUS DEWDROP.

S. Paulo, 4th November, 1897.

CRICKET AT PERNAMBUCO.

We are in receipt of the following score of a match between Pernambuco and The Cable Companies, which closes the cricket season at Pernambuco. As will be seen, the match was not played out. The score was:

THE CABLE COMPANIES	
1st innings.	
H. V. Crawford, lb. c. Clemenson,	13
A. Bell, lb. w. c. Clemenson,	9
C. Williams, ct. Boxwell, b. R. Conolly, ..	1
J. Riley, lb. c. Clemenson,	0
F. Fox, ct. Clemenson, b. H. Conolly,	21
G. Scheelin, ct. Boxwell, b. Phillips,	3
W. Jardine, ct. Boxwell, b. H. Conolly, ..	6
D. Pratt, run out,	12
A. Dunn, b. Phillips,	7
W. Morgan, b. H. Conolly,	4
C. Pratt, st. Brotherhood, b. H. Conolly, ..	0
H. Nevill, not out,	12
Extras,	12
Total,	103

2nd innings.	
H. V. Crawford, ct. Latham, b. H. Conolly ..	27
A. Bell, b. Comber,	0
C. Williams, ct. Latham, b. H. Conolly, ..	4
J. Riley, c. and b. H. Conolly,	6
A. Fox, not out,	6
G. Scheelin, did not bat,	6
W. Jardine,	6
D. Pratt, not out,	52
A. Dunn, did not bat,	—
W. Morgan,	—
C. Pratt,	—
H. Nevill, ct. R. Conolly, b. Deere,	23
Extras,	6
Total,	118

PERNAMBUCO.

1st innings.

F. Clemenson, ct. C. Pratt, b. Morgan, ..	22
H. Conolly, lb. w. b. C. Pratt,	4
H. Latham, ct. C. Pratt, b. Morgan,	0
T. Comber, b. Morgan,	9
R. Thom, c. and b. Morgan,	25
R. Conolly, ct. C. Pratt, b. Morgan,	0
E. Brotherhood, b. Morgan,	0
W. R. Phillips, c. and b. C. Pratt,	56
J. Mendous, ct. C. Pratt, b. Riley,	50
W. Boxwell, run out,	5
C. Deere, stumped Nevill, b. Riley,	2
G. F. Fellows, not out,	1
Extras,	23

Total,

During the season, now closed, this principal fixture has been played off five times, with the following results:

Pernambuco,	2 wins
Cable Companies,	1 "
Drawn,	1 "
Not played out,	1 "
Total,	5

RAILROAD NOTES

—The aggregate sums to be paid next year on account of guarantee of interest on capital invested in Brazilian railways are estimated by the budget committee of the chamber of deputies at 10,029,817\$134 in gold and 4,031,797\$971 in currency.

—Decree No. 2,648, of the 25th ult., approves the final surveys on the Santos extension of the Mogiana railway in the part between Santos and Quilombo, 4 k. 322 m. in length, and that between Quilombo and Alto da Serra, 18 k. 100 m. in length.

—In our opinion it would be sound policy for the government not only to suspend the concession of interest guarantees to railways, but to enter into negotiation with the companies now holding such concessions to exchange the interest guarantee for some other form of security. The public lands might very well be substituted.

—The organisation of the Leopoldina Railway Company, as an English undertaking, is progressing satisfactorily. Mr. Colman, formerly general manager of the West Lancashire railway, which has now been taken over by the Lancashire and Yorkshire company, has been appointed as general manager of the Leopoldina system, and will sail for Brazil immediately. — *South American Journal*, Oct. 16.

—On the 4th inst. the municipal council voted in 3rd reading to amend the Botanical Garden contract of 1890, and allow that company to add 100 reis to the fares now ruling for first-class passengers, in consideration of various extensions, improvements, etc., and the opening of a second Copacabana tunnel through the Leão pass. The improvements include an extension of the electric system to all points of the line. The measure also includes a modification of the contract, surrendering the right to take possession of the property at the end of the concession in consideration of the payment of 2 per cent of the gross receipts. The *Jornal do Commercio* declares this resolution a violation of Art. 15, § 8, a, of the municipal charter.

LOCAL NOTES

—Gen. Cantuaria has been appointed minister of war, and Gen. Mallet has been appointed adjutant general.

—We learn that a police force has been guarding the house of Vice-President Manoel Victorino, who is said to be threatened.

—Surgeon-General João Severino da Fonseca, brother of the deceased Marshal Deodoro da Fonseca, died in this city on Sunday.

—On Monday five opposition deputies made a public declaration in the chamber of their withdrawal from the opposition party and their adherence to the government.

—Deputy Glycero was expected to arrive from São Paulo yesterday, but he failed to put in an appearance when the train arrived, to the great disappointment of the crowd awaiting him.

—A Berlin telegram of the 4th announces the sudden death during the previous night of Baron de Itajuba, Brazilian minister at that capital. It is stated that apoplexy was the cause of death.

—It is generally admitted that Senator Ruy Barbosa made one of the most effective speeches of his life in the senate on Saturday last, in denunciation of the assassination of the preceding day.

—On Saturday last the foreign diplomatic representatives residing at Petropolis sent their congratulations to the President on his escape from assassination, and their condolences on the tragic death of Marshal Bittencourt.

—On the evening of the 5th, while the President was occupied with members of his cabinet and official household at the Cattede palace, a man was caught climbing over the back wall into the palace grounds. He was promptly arrested.

—According to the *Gazeta de Noticias*, Col. Moraes stated, while his wound was being dressed on Friday last, that several anonymous letters had been received at the Cattede palace threatening the President's life, but he never gave any credit to them.

—It may or may not be significant, but the *Pais* did not publish the President's manifesto. It occupies only twenty-seven lines in the *Journal do Commercio*, but the *Pais* was in such a hurry to get to press that it could not find space. It looks very strange, surely!

—On his arrival here on Sunday Minister C. E. H. Phipps, of H. R. M.'s legation, proceeded at once to the President's palace to tender his congratulations on his fortunate escape from assassination on Friday last, together with his condolences on the death of the minister of war.

—The *Folha da Tarde* proposes to prosecute the national treasury for damages for the wrecking of its printing-office on the morning of the 7th, and Frederico Borges is one of the lawyers. We shall watch this case with interest, for the *News* was once arbitrarily suspended and the same Borges approved it.

—It is worthy of note that the editor of the *Pais* went to the chief of police on Friday afternoon to seek protection from threatened assault. The feeling on the street against the *Pais* and *Republica* was decidedly unsympathetic, and those two organs were made to feel what it is to have the mob against them.

—The energy that is wasted in criminal disturbances and attacks on newspaper offices should be utilized in a calm, resolute and systematic effort to relieve the country of the illegitimate pressure that has deprived the people of the faculty of self government and been the principal cause of the calamities into which the nation has been plunged.

—Decleciiano Martyr and Joaquim Freire were interrogated yesterday by the police authorities, but it is not known with what result. Freire is said to have shown a desire to make revelations to Colonel Travassos, who declined to listen to them. Among the assassin's effects was found a photograph of Decleciiano, who was characterized as the "greatest of Brazilians."

—Among the arrests that have been made since the murder of the minister of war are those of Decleciiano Martyr, the well known Jacobin agitator, and Joaquim Freire, who is supposed to be one of the persons responsible for the military murders committed in the vicinity of this city, at Pernambuco, in Paraná, and in Santa Catharina during the administration of Marshal Floriano Peixoto.

—After the adjournment in the chamber of deputies on Friday last a number of deputies and other persons were discussing the murder of the minister of war, when there was an exchange of angry words between some of the Jacobin deputies and Lieut. Penha, which resulted in a fight. It is asserted that Deputy Barbosa Lima, of Pernambuco notoriety, got a blow in the month, but he denies it.

—It is stated that the government deputies at a meeting held on Saturday decided to vote for martial law if the government wishes it. In view of the abuses that have hitherto been committed under the cover of martial law, the government ought to have had too much patriotism and judgment to ask for so pernicious a measure. Yesterday, however, a message to congress from the President asked that martial law should be declared in this capital and Niteroi.

—With reference to Antonio Conselheiro, we have to note that the correspondent of the *Times* at Rio de Janeiro, in announcing the taking of Canudos, after several days of continuous fighting, accompanied by heavy loss on both sides, asserts that the leader of the fanatics was not captured. We cannot conceive, however, that this gentleman possesses any sources of authentic information not equally in the possession of Reuter's representative in the Brazilian capital. We have, however, observed that the correspondent of the *Times* there is apparently reluctant to accept or transmit any statement favorable to Brazil. The *Times* correspondent seems to be unable to please the Brazilian legation in London, no matter what he does. As he is apparently interested only in forwarding accurate news, perhaps he does not care, after all.

—The executive committee of the republican federal party, in view of the disturbances that have occurred in this city, advises the congressmen belonging to its party not to attend the sittings of congress until the party shall have adopted some resolution in regard to its action in the present emergency. This is patriotic of course!

MARRIAGE.

GIBAUD—TIERRMANN.—On November 5th at Christ Church, Rio de Janeiro, by the Rev. Irvine Crawshaw, and previously by the British Consul, THOMAS KEATH GIBAUD, of Rio de Janeiro, to NADINE LAURENT TIERRMANN, lately of Buenos Aires. River Plate papers please copy.

THE PRESS NEMESIS.

The threatening demonstrations against the *Pais* and *Republica* on Saturday last led to a fear that the mob would seek to wreck them for their intemperate hostility to the President. Detachments of police were accordingly sent to guard them, the *Pais* having solicited such protection. In the evening the manifestations continued, and at the *Republica* office someone threw bottles and other missiles into the crowd to provoke an attack. Finally nearly the whole staff cleared out, and the one editor remaining sent out word that the *Republica* would not be issued the following day.

At the offices of the *Debate* and *Journal do Commercio* speeches were made to the crowd, advising moderation and obedience to the wishes of the President. The crowd then dispersed, apparently satisfied, and later on the police guard at the office of the *Republica* withdrew.

About half past one, Sunday morning, a small mob suddenly appeared and assaulted the *Republica*, tearing down its sign, smashing its electric lamp and doing some damage to its editorial offices.

It is said that no injury was done to its printing office. About two o'clock the offices of the *Jacobino* in Rua da Uruguanayana were wrecked, and half an hour later those of the *Folha da Tarde*, in Rua da Assembleia, shared the same fate.

The minister of justice has ordered a rigid investigation of the affair, and steps have been taken to repress further outbreaks of this character.

SHIPPING NOTES.

—The American cruiser *Cincinnati* did not leave for Montevideo on the 4th inst. She was visited by Minister Coger and various Brazilian naval officers on the 3rd.

—The transport *Andrada*, which has been laid up for repairs for some days after bringing the São Paulo policemen back from Bahia, is now quite ready for service again, and will proceed to Bahia for more troops.

—A Naples telegram of the 3rd inst. says that it is decided that the Italian squadron on the South American station shall be composed of the protected cruisers *Carlos Alberto*, *Umbria*, *Albatross* and *Calabria*.

COFFEE NOTES.

—The export of coffee from southern India during the year ending 30th June last, excluding that which had been imported, amounted to 217,765 cwt., against 207,417 cwt. in 1895-96, and 291,621 cwt. in 1894-95.

—A recent visitor to the Straits from Ceylon writes:—I had a most enjoyable trip, but was too much rushed. There was no doubt that Liberian coffee has found its habitat in the Straits, where it grows most luxuriantly, but this terrible fall in price from \$14 to \$25 per picul is very alarming to those interested. I cannot help thinking, though, that much might be done to improve the sample by more careful drying and by picking and sizing it, like on Ceylon plantations; the bean has a most excellent flavor, and one cannot detect it from Arabica when carefully made and roasted.—*Ceylon Observer*.

—In discussing a report on the coffee and pepper production of southern India, the *Ceylon Observer* of Sept. 1st says:—Turning to coffee, Mr. Tatham has but a poor account to furnish and we much fear it is the beginning of the end for this staple in Mysore and Coorg as it was in the eighties in Ceylon. The conditions described at the recent meeting of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, exactly coincide with the experience of Uva—the driest and richest district in this island—a few years back. Until then, coffee in Uva had kept up against leaf disease, but when green fungus appeared the planters found they had a far more terrible enemy to contend with and gradually nearly every one of them had to give up the struggle. The only chance we can see for coffee in Mysore and Coorg lies in the introduction of the 'lady-bird' beetles to eat off the pernicious bug as they, apparently, have done from the coffee of the Hawaiian islands.

BUSINESS NOTES.

—The general offices of the postal department have been moved to the Exchange building.

—It is to be feared that the crime of Friday last will still further postpone a revival of business. It can hardly be expected that foreign capital will come here as long as such disorders are known.

—During the year ended on the 30th of last June the sales of the Companhia de Lacticos amounted to 471,357\$560. The company out of its profits spent a considerable sum on improvements and paid a dividend of 5% on a capital of 320,000\$.

—The Parã state *recebedoria* received 24,322,000 in the month of October.

FINANCIAL NOTES.

—The Parã state *recebedoria* received 24,322,000 in the month of October.

—Complaints are coming in from São Paulo of the lack of revenue stamps of the smaller denominations in that city. The inconvenience as well as the expense is causing much irritation.

—The government's estimate of 88,953,333\$50 for the expenses of the department of industry in 1898 has been reduced to 85,617,712\$24 by the budget committee of the chamber of deputies.

—The three months of extra sessions in congress will cost the country 2,034,000\$ in salaries to senators and deputies, besides the considerable expenditure on clerks, servants, reporting, printing, etc., etc. And what will Brazil derive from the outlay?

—By executive decree of the 30th ult. and 1st inst. the government has made the following special and deficiency appropriations:—99,993\$962 for the conveyance of convicts removed from the island of Fernando de Noronha, 76,200\$ for reporting the congressional debates and 618,750\$ for the pay of congressmen.

—The September receipts of the Parã *recebedoria* were 1,468,292\$379, of which 155,593\$588 were deposits and municipal revenues. Of the balance of 1,312,698\$891, the sum of 1,272,891\$838 was described as effective revenue, and of this 1,213,462\$537 were derived from export duties. The 22 per cent export duty on rubber produced 1,209,939\$706.

—The budget committee of the castilian legislature of Rio Grande do Sul proposes a duty of 5% on dry goods, boots and shoes, matches and some other articles of merchandise, imported from other states. Among the appropriations which it proposes are 100,000\$ for a statue of Marshal Floriano Peixoto and 200,000\$ for a palace for the governor.

—The budget committee of the chamber of deputies describes the decrease in public revenue as alarming (*assustador*), the increase, in public expenditure as prodigious (*assombroso*) and the present financial situation of the country as deplorable. And yet neither the government, nor congress, seems to have the patriotism to adopt and follow a policy of thorough retrenchment.

—The principal movement during the past week has been the considerable weakness shown in the market for Brazilian government bonds. Having regard to the immense resources of the country, the magnitude of the Brazilian debt, and the close connection of big financiers in London with the finances of Brazil, it is somewhat remarkable that business in Brazilian securities remains so quiet. The reason is to be found in the continued uncertainty as to the immediate outlook, both financially and politically in Brazil. Had it not been for their strong backing, Brazilian bonds would never have maintained the prices they have. It is all very well to talk about Brazil never defaulting, and for my own part I do not believe there is any such intention on the part of the government, but when things are allowed to drift as they are doing, and statesmen appear to pay more attention to their own petty squabbles and local politics than to the credit of the country, things may so drift that the best intentions may be thwarted and the unexpected happen. One cannot help feeling uneasy as to the future when week after week and month after month passes while procrastination rules where the immediate settlement of vital questions is called for by every consideration of prudence and self interest. The reason for the fall in Brazilian bonds this week is represented as having been regarded with some satisfaction, as it may tend to bring home to Brazilian statesmen the dangers of further delay.—*South American Journal*, London, Oct. 16.

—The governor of Rio Grande do Sul has had a commission appointed to report upon the two offers made for the lease of the Porto Alegre and Uruguanayana railway, which can hardly be considered in good taste, while the general government is studying them. The Rio Grande commission finds that at the end of 60 years the Belgian offer will yield 2,988,750, while that of Rio Grande will yield 2,033,400. No account is apparently taken of the initial payment by the Belgians, while the Rio Grande offer is based on estimated receipts.

—The following returns of customs receipts for the month of October have been made public:

	1897	1896
Rio de Janeiro	7,616,810\$861	9,851,370\$793
Santos	2,881,365\$080	3,346,540\$006
Ceará	634,264\$766	246,345\$201
Parã	1,997,057\$342	1,788,043\$832
Porto Alegre	1,018,275\$952	1,029,571\$932
Paraná	200,153\$466	156,241\$066
Uruguanayana	61,577\$697	79,496\$697
Bahia	1,771,495\$223	2,209,415\$174
Rio Grande do Sul	377,153\$290	701,013\$240

COMMERCIAL.

Rio de Janeiro, November 8th, 1897

Par value of the Brazilian milreis (1000)	27 d.
do of the Brazilian milreis (1000) in U. S. coin at \$1.86, 65 per cent	54 75
do of \$100 (U. S. coin) Brazilian gold	1847 etas
do of \$100 in Brazilian gold	8 80

Bank rate of exchange, official, on London to day	7 1/2 d.
Present value of the Brazilian milreis (gold)	35 79
Present value of the Brazilian milreis (paper)	26 14 gold
Present value of the Brazilian milreis in U. S. coin at \$1.86, 65 per cent	14 25 c.
Value of \$100 (\$100 per cent) U. S. str. in Brazilian currency (paper)	7417
Value of £1 sterling	35 84

EXCHANGE.

November 2—Holiday.
November 3.—The banks posted 7 1/2, and were drawing at 7 1/2 all day, refusing to buy at better than 7 1/2, at which bills were not freely offered. The market seemed listless after three days rest, but holders of bills were not disposed to part with their merchandise, offering to sell freely at 7 1/2, at their option, without finding takers, while there was some good money at 7 1/2, for bank sterling, for the next pocket, which the banks would not accept. There was very little doing at 7 1/2—7 1/2 for bank and 7 1/2—7 1/2 for other sterling, and the market closed quiet, but steady. An increased demand was propounded for the strainer of the 9th. The Bolsa closed without offers, or bids of gold and on the street 2000 pieces were quoted at 74 1/2.

November 4.—No change was made in the posted rates by the banks, and the market opened steady with bank sterling at 7 1/2, other bills offered at 7 1/2, and business done at 7 1/2. During the day a demand for exchange appeared, and the "street" at once offering at 7 1/2, and for a time rates were flat, but later on called repeated paper came out at 7 1/2, forcing the market to the 7 1/2. In the afternoon the market was steady again, closing with bank quoted at 7 1/2, and other sterling at 7 1/2—7 1/2, and buyers only at 7 1/2. The Brazilian Bank was reported to have refused money at 7 1/2, and rumor had it that a large liquidation is imminent. There was a little more animation during the day, some commercial paper appearing at 7 1/2, the declared extremes ranging between 7 1/2—7 1/2 bank and 7 1/2—7 1/2 other sterling. On the street sovereigns were quoted at 34 1/2—the Bolsa closed without buyers, or sellers.

November 5.—The banks opened at 7 1/2, but there was a good demand for other than bank sterling at 7 1/2, and in the course of the morning some of the foreign banks posted 7 1/2, and business was done at other bills at 7 1/2. Then some bills came out and the banks were drawing at 7 1/2, against other paper at 7 1/2, when the market of the 4th was reduced to 7 1/2, with bills in demand at 7 1/2, and business reported was fair, at 7 1/2—7 1/2 bank, and 7 1/2—7 1/2 other sterling. There was no Bolsa, and on the street gold was quoted at 75 1/2 per 1000.

November 6.—The market opened steady, with 7 1/2 official, the banks drawing at 7 1/2, and other paper offered at 7 1/2, with taken at 7 1/2, at which business was done, and so ended up to midday. The decline in rates brought out some bills, and the business reported was fair, at 7 1/2—7 1/2 bank, and 7 1/2—7 1/2 other sterling. There was no Bolsa, and on the street gold was quoted at 75 1/2 per 1000.

November 7.—The market opened steady, with 7 1/2 official, the banks drawing at 7 1/2, and other paper offered at 7 1/2, with taken at 7 1/2, at which business was done, and so ended up to midday. The decline in rates brought out some bills, and the business reported was fair, at 7 1/2—7 1/2 bank, and 7 1/2—7 1/2 other sterling. There was no Bolsa, and on the street gold was quoted at 75 1/2 per 1000.

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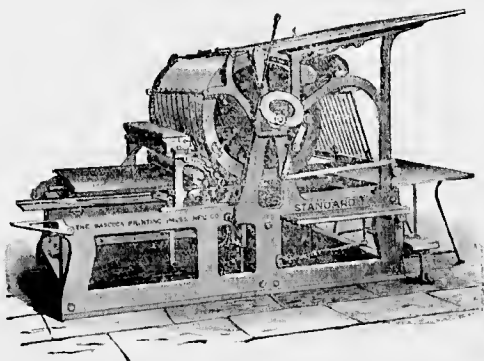
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Date	Steamer	Destination
1897		
Nov. 9	Minho	Bahia, Macaé, Pernambuco, Las Palmas, Lisbon, Southampton and Antwerp.
11	Thames	Montevideo and Buenos Ayres.
17	Magdalena	Bahia, Pernambuco, Lisbon, Vigo, Cher- bourg and Southampton.

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